



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Sharon L. Morris, R.N., and Dean E. Morris

DATE: November 27, 1995

SERIAL NO.: 08/286,413

GROUP ART UNIT: 2111

FILED: August 5, 1994

EXAMINER: R. Gibson

FOR: "Automatic Surgical Sponge Counter and Blood Loss Determination System"

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: A94087US (51929/1)

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RESPONSE

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GROUP 211

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 27, 1995. A shortened statutory period was set to expire thirty days from the date of the action, making a response due by November 26, 1995.

ELECTION

Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, the invention of Group II, claims 15-19. Applicant respectfully submits that both inventions could be examined together, with little additional work on the part of the Patent and Trademark Office.

AMENDMENT

Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please add the following claims:

20. Apparatus comprising a surgical sponge made of an absorbent material for absorbing fluids during surgery and an RF tag attached to the sponge for allowing the sponge to be detected by a non-optical scanner means.

21. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein:
the RF tag does not exceed one inch in diameter and 0.20 inches in thickness.

22. The apparatus of claim 20, wherein:
the RF tag does not exceed three grams in weight.

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